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FRITZ LASHES PRESIDENT ON BEIRUT TRAGEDY

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WALTER Mondale led a charge of top Democrats who lashed out at President Reagan yesterday over the latest Beirut terror bombing in the sharpest terms yet — suggesting the President was encouraging terrorism.

"In saying that the CIA is weak, [Reagan] encourages those same terrorists and our enemies around the world to believe that we don't have an effective intelligence capacity when we do," the Democratic candidate charged.

"And to the extent we don't — it's his responsibility.

"The President has simply got to get his act together and fast," Mondale insisted.

The former vice president's angry response was touched off by Reagan's suggestion that prior administrations had weakened the CIA and hurt its ability to detect potential terrorist acts.

"Under previous ad-

ministrations, the CIA had been strengthened, including under our own," Mondale said.

"This is 1984 — not 1980, and he is responsible for that government."

Reagan came under equally harsh attack on the same issue yesterday from former President Jimmy Carter and ex-CIA director Stansfield Turner.

Carter called Reagan's CIA accusations "personally insulting and too gross in its implications to ignore."

Blasting the President's "stream of false assertions" that "blame his every mistake and failure on me and others who served before him," Carter insisted Reagan was directly responsible for any harm to U.S. troops overseas.

"This series of tragedies in the Middle East has been brought about by the President's own deeply flawed policy and inadequate security precautions in the face

of proven danger," Carter said.

And Turner accused Reagan of doing "more damage to the CIA than any president in history.

"He has politicized it," Turner said. "He has ruined its reputation.

And he said the Carter-Mondale administration "did not reduce even one operative overseas."

House Speaker Tip O'Neill challenged Reagan to stop "trying to pass the buck and instead realize that the buck stops with you."

Mondale, looking stern and angry, called Reagan's remarks "inexcusable," especially given the "very dangerous and bloody situation where the threat was as clear as it could possibly be."

He called on Reagan to "stand up and say, 'I was responsible. We're going to take the steps right now that need to be taken' " to secure the embassy.